

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Masaaki NANAUMI, et al.

Appln. No.: Not Yet Assigned

Confirmation No.: Not Yet Assigned

Group Art Unit: Not Yet Assigned

Filed: January 18, 2002

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

For: MEMBRANE ELECTRODE ASSEMBLY AND METHOD FOR PRODUCING SAME, AND
POLYMER ELECTROLYTE FUEL CELL COMPRISING SUCH MEMBRANE ELECTRODE
ASSEMBLIES

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to examination, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please enter the following amended claims:

10. The membrane electrode assembly according to claim 1, wherein said polymer electrolyte membrane is made of a sulfonated hydrocarbon polymer that may contain oxygen in its skeleton or other substituent groups than a sulfonic group.

12. The polymer electrolyte fuel cell constituted by stacking a plurality of said membrane electrode assemblies according to claim 1 via separator plates

Please add the following new claims:

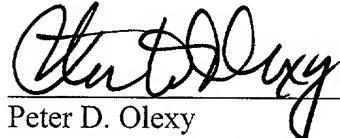
16. The membrane electrode assembly according to claim 5, wherein said polymer electrolyte membrane is made of a sulfonated hydrocarbon polymer that may contain oxygen in its skeleton or other substituent groups than a sulfonic group.

17. The polymer electrolyte fuel cell constituted by stacking a plurality of said membrane electrode assemblies according to claim 5 via separator plates

REMARKS

Multiple dependency is removed from the claims. The claims are not narrowed. Entry and consideration of this Amendment is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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Date: January 18, 2002

APPENDIX

VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

IN THE CLAIMS:

The claims are amended as follows:

10. The membrane electrode assembly according to claim 1-~~or 5~~, wherein said polymer electrolyte membrane is made of a sulfonated hydrocarbon polymer that may contain oxygen in its skeleton or other substituent groups than a sulfonic group.

12. The polymer electrolyte fuel cell constituted by stacking a plurality of said membrane electrode assemblies according to claim 1-~~or 5~~ via separator plates.

Claims 16 and 17 are added as new claims.